

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend paragraph [0064] at page 12, as follows:

[0064] The highly water-absorbing material is present in an amount sufficient to provide the required rate of disintegration of the active cushioning component. In one embodiment, the highly water-absorbing material is present in an amount ranging from about 0.1% up to about 80% based on the weight of highly-compactable filler. In another embodiment, the highly water-absorbing material is present in an amount ranging from about 5% up to about 40% based on the weight of highly-compactable filler. In another embodiment, the highly water-absorbing material is present in an amount ranging from about 20% up to about 40% based on the weight of highly-compactable filler.